**Trip report**

A trip was made to Ethiopia from 16 to 23 May 2017 to participate in the Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop organized in Maichew town (app. 650 km North of Addis Ababa). The ToT was organized by the Africa RISING program in the Ethiopian highlands. The workshop lasted for three days. The objective of the training was as follows:

* To introduce and familiarize development partners the already validated Africa RISING project technologies/innovations in the Ethiopian Highlands.
* To equip technical staff of partner institutes with skills and knowledge of the management of each technology/innovations.
* To jointly plan the implementation process for Africa RISING phase II.

The opening remark was made by Dr. Peter, Ethiopian Highland Africa RISING project coordinator. He made a brief review on the following areas:

* Need to scale Africa RISING proven technologies
* Need to engage with development partners and the regional agricultural research institute
* Motivating development partners to take-up technologies while ILRI and CG partners in Ethiopia will provide training and backstopping.
* Confirmed support from the American government to fund the program for the next five years.

The ToT was officially opened by Mr. G/Egziabher, South Tigray Agricultural bureau chief who stressed on the following areas:

* Multiple activities are going-on in the Tigray region and Africa RISING project is considered by the regional bureau as one of the important contributer to agricultural development south western Tigray zone.
* Participants need to be attentive get the most out of the training workshop.
* The regional agricultural bureau is keen to work with partners on continuous evaluation of validated technologies for further widespread dissemination in areas where Africa RISING is current not operational in the region.

After the brief remarks of the two officials Africa RISING Ethiopian scientists and development partners brief presentations on the following topics:

1. Phase I R4D, What is Africa RISING phase II?

Scaling by development partners, CG centers will conduct back-stopping research (70%), 30% for scaling. Total number of beneficiaries to be reached 700,000 direct beneficiaries, 2.5-3m indirect beneficiaries.

1. Integrating a gender perspective in scaling technologies, why gender in scaling technologies?, What are the tips to integrate gender perspectives?, Set quotas for women beneficiaries (30 to 50%) in scaling, conducting gender analysis to aid targeting, strategy to overcome gender based constraints and exploit existing opportunities.
2. Regional project initiatives and their links with Africa RISING project for better synergy.
3. Role of training institutes and the regional Agricultural Research Institute structure, Crop research, Natural resources management, Livestock, Socio-economics, Ag. Mechanization, Variety development, release and adaptation on various crops
4. USAID FtF funded Livelihoods for Resilience: Ideal platform for scaling to reach a total beneficiaries of 178,500 families, strategies for monthly stakeholder platform monitoring.

After the first day presentation and discussion three groups were formed to discuss on the following topics:

1. Crop research and scaling
2. Natural resources management research and scaling
3. Livestock research and scaling options

The last day of the workshop focused on visiting some of the proven technologies in the highlands of Mehoni intervention village, **Embahasti Kebele**.

Detail description of the ToT scaling training program is attached.

**My observations and recommendation**

After attending the 3 days scaling ToT and field visit the following were my observations and recommendation for the Africa RISING team in Ethiopia. I shared these points to the team during the closure ceremony of the training.

1. Africa RISING (AR) Ethiopian program was very well received by the Tigray region bureau. There is a strong political support from the regional bureau of agriculture, Tigray Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Maichew Technical and Vocational Education College, and Mekelle University. This strong partnership will enable the Africa RISING Ethiopia team to achieve the objectives of the project in the next five years. Courage!
2. Selecting a watershed (Figure 1a) as a means of scaling technologies is working well for the AR Ethiopia program. This is a good lesson for West Africa (WA).
3. Livestock feeding technology (Figure 1b) was well developed. A good lesson for WA.
4. The AR Ethiopian team need to prepare a technical document for the identified technologies for upscaling. The technical document need to be circulated to partners prior to the implementation period for their appraisal and commentaries. We need to do the same in WA.
5. AR Ethiopian team need to work with relevant institutes to make available germplasm of the different crop and tree species.
6. AR Ethiopian team need to establish appropriate monitoring and evaluation strategy for upscaling proven technologies. The same for WA.
7. There is a need to target different agro-ecologies to implement scaling programs and conduct RinD. The same for WA.
8. AR Ethiopia team need to train youth to develop more seedlings. The same for WA.
9. Need to provide capacity building to bureau officials who are decision makers at woreda level. Despite the continuous training on technologies for scaling, at present woreda agricultural experts and extension agents are working on what they are told by their seniors. Providing technical guidance and awareness for decision makers is the job the AR team shouldn’t overlook.
10. AR Ethiopian team need to work closely with the appropriate institution to provide guidance on scaling strategies and sustainable intensification. The same for WA.

****

Figure 1 (a) Watershed management in Embasati village

****

Figure 1(b) A feed trough technology



Figure 1: Apple Integrated with vegetable options



Figure 2: Tree species for animal feed and live fencing



Figure 3: Feed management



Figure 4: Preservation of potato seed

**Training of Trainers (ToT)**

**On**

**“Scaling of Africa RISING project validat8ed technologies/innovations in the Ethiopian Highlands”**

**19-21 April 2017, Tadele Hotel, Maichew, Tigray**

**Objectives of the Training**

* To introduce and familiarize development partners the already validated Africa RISING project technologies/innovations in the Ethiopian Highlands
* To equip the technical staff of the partners with skills and knowledge of the management of each technology/innovations
* To jointly plan the implementation process

**Day One**

| **Schedule** | **Activities** | **Responsible person/s** | **Facilitator** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8:30 | Registration | Organizers |  |
| 9:00 | Welcoming and opening remarks | Peter Thorne  Maichew ATVET representative | Simret Yasabu |
| 9:10 | Ice Breaker and process introduction | Simret Yasabu /Aberra Adie |  |
| 9:30 | Updates on Africa RISING moves from Phase I to Phase II | Kindu Mekonnen | Simret Yasabu |
| 9:45 | Gender integration in Africa RISING innovations scaling | Annet Mulema |  |
| 10:00 | Q&A | Simret Yasabu |  |
| **10:15** | **Break and Group photo** | **Organizers** |  |
| 10:30 | Presentation on development partners engagement | * Maichew ATVET college * TARI | Simret Yasabu |
| 11:00 | Q&A | Simret Y. |  |
| 11:10 | Presentation on development partners engagement cont. | * REST/GRAD 2 * CASCAPE |  |
| 12:00 | Q&A | Simret Yasabu |  |
| 12:15 | Guidance on the afternoon session | Simret Yasabu & Aberra Adie |  |
| **Lunch Break (12:30-1:30)** | | | |
| 1:30 | Training in Group (Livestock , NRM and Crops ) | Technology promoters   * Livestock (ILRI) * Crops (ICARDA,CIP) * NRM(CIAT, ICRAF) |  |
| 4:30 | Reflection of the day – Guided plenary | Simret Yasabu |  |
| **5:00** | **Reception** | **TADELE hotel** |  |

**Day Two**

| **Schedule** | **Activities** | **Responsible person/s** | **Facilitator** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8:30 | Process introduction | Simret Yasabu |  |
| 9:00 | Training in Groups Continues (Livestock , NRM and Crops ) | Technology promoters   * Livestock (ILRI) * Crops (CIMMYT, ICRISAT) * NRM(CIAT,ICRAF) |  |
| **10:30** | **Break** | **Organizers** |  |
| 11:00 | Training in Groups Continues (Livestock , NRM and Crops ) | Technology promoters   * Livestock (ILRI) * Crops(CIMMYT,ICRISAT * NRM(CIAT,ICRAF) |  |
| **Lunch Break (12:30-13:30)** | | | |
| 1:30 | Training in Groups Continues (Livestock , NRM and Crops ) | Technology promoters   * Livestock (ILRI) * Crops(CIMMYT,ICRISAT) +ICARDA ,CIP * NRM(CIAT,ICRAF) | Simret Yasabu &Aberra Adie |
| **3:00** | **Break** | **Organizers** |  |
| **3:30** | Planning the implementation process : Group discussion | Lead by Development partners |  |
| 4:30 | Group presentation  Reflection of the day- Guided plenary | Group leaders | Simret Yasabu |
| 5:00 | Discussions on field day arrangements | Mohammed Ebrahim and Gebrehiwot |  |

**3rd day (21April/2017) Morning - Embahasti Kebele Visit**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Farmer/ field to be visited | Technologies to be visited | Facilitator /Village guide | Technology promoter |
| 8:00 |  |  | Mohammed Ebrahim and Gebrehiwot |  |
| 8:10 | Woldeseliasie | Apple |  | Dr Aster/Hadiya |
| Eyasu Melese | Apple |  |
| Ftale Eyasu | Apple |  |
| 9:00 | Kesh Birhanu Aregawi | Feed trough and shed |  | Dr Melkamu Bezabih and Abera Adie |
| 9: 30 | Haftu Aregaw | Feed trough |  | Dr Kindu Mekonnen and |
| 11:00 | Berhe Adhana | Tree Lucerne |  | Dr Melkamu. |
| 11:30 | Kesh Birhanu Aregawi and other | Potato storage (DLS) |  | Mereciet |
| 12:00 | Embahasti watershed area | Watershed |  | Dr Kifle |
| 12:30 | General discussion |  |  | All |